MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 APRIL 1983

PLO Affairs

PLO-Jordanian Talks -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held further talks in Amman with Jordanian King Husayn and also chaired PLO Executive Committee meetings before and after his talks, Amman radio reported. Despite earlier reports that the PLO and Jordan would issue a joint political declaration on 4 April, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir subsequently announced that the statement was delayed for "technical" reasons, Radio Monte Carlo reported. PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar indicated that PLO-Jordanian disagreement prevented the publication of any statement, the radio noted. In its second meeting the PLO Executive Committee reiterated the PLO's rejection of President Reagan's plan as a basis for solving the Palestinian issue, Abu Mayzar announced afterward in a statement reported by WAKH. Asserting that a reconciliation between the Fes and Reagan plans is unlikely, the PLO spokesman stressed that the PLO adheres to its decision to reject any "authorization, intercession, or participation" in representing the Palestinian people. After its earlier meeting, the Executive Committee issued a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio denouncing Israeli policy and practices toward the Palestinians, in particular, the "poisoning" of girl students and recent "aggressions" against Muslim holy places.

Al-Asad-Habash Meeting -- George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus to discuss the Palestinian issue and "the need to confront Zionist-imperialist conspiracies aimed at liquidating the Palestinian cause and imposing a capitulatory settlement" on the Palestinians, Damascus radio reported. Noting that the Habash-Al-Asad meeting coincided with the first visit by a PFLP representative to Amman in 10 years, Radio Monte Carlo said a meeting between Al-Asad and 'Arafat has become necessary prior to the convocation of the extraordinary Arab summit conference in Fes.

Nabulus Attack -- The PLO claimed responsibility for the recent handgrenade attack on an Israeli patrol in the West Bank town of Nabulus, the PLO military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio.

Egypt

Following his visit to the PRC President Husni Mubarak visited Pyongyang for talks with DPRK President Kim Il-song, MENA reported. According to Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Usamah al-Baz, Mubarak discussed cooperation in economic development and briefed Kim Il-song on the negotiations between PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said his upcoming visits to Paris and Washington are aimed at giving impetus to the Middle East peace process, particularly regarding the Lebanese and Palestinian questions, according to MENA. Ghali reiterated the Egyptian Government's view that a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on starting negotiations with Israel would give "new momentum" to the peace process and the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He declared that Egypt "will then participate in these expanded negotiations" to discuss the status of the West Bank and Gaza during the "transitional period" and the future of the "Palestinian territory," MENA noted.

Syria

"Surely the U.S. Administration and the Zionist enemy have realized the meaning of the Soviet warning against any military adventure against Syria," a TISHRIN commentary reviewed by Damascus radio declared. TISHRIN added that both the Soviet Government statement on the Middle East and Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko's comments at his recent news conference mean that the USSR is "quite serious" about its support for Syria.

A Soviet-Syrian maritime navigation agreement was signed by Transport Minister Muhammad Yunis and Soviet Minister of the Maritime Fleet Timofey Guzhenko, SANA announced. According to the 2-year agreement, which will be renewed automatically, the two sides will enjoy most-favored-nation status in commercial navigation. Both ministers described the agreement as contributing to the strengthening of bilateral relations, SANA added.

Lebanon

Lebanon has accepted the principle of joint patrols in the south on the basis that IDF soldiers participating in the patrols will move in Lebanese vehicles under the Lebanese flag, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported citing "informed sources." The radio also said Lebanon and Israel have agreed that Major Sa'd Haddad and his men will take orders from the Lebanese authorities. Beirut radio reports on the negotiations did not mention any agreement over Haddad's status but noted that the Lebanese negotiators at the 5 April Khaldah talks would use a new procedure designed to accelerate the negotiations and reach agreement "after overcoming the obstacles which prevented, and continue to prevent, a solution of the security problem in the south."

Oil Slick

No plans for an Iraqi-Iranian cease-fire in the Gulf area emerged from a meeting in Manama of environmental experts studying ways to fight the oil slick threatening the Gulf coastline, AFP reported. The spokesman for the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment said there had been no reference to the conditions posed by Iraq for a "provisional cease-fire" that would allow the war-damaged Iranian oil wells to be repaired. The Iranian envoy to Bahrain dismissed as "unacceptable" Iraq's demand for guarantees that Iran would not take advantage of the cease-fire to "clear up its own sea routes in the Gulf, particularly by sweeping them free of mines." The envoy declared that since Nowruz oil field -- location of the damaged oil wells -- had not been used "for production" during the past 3 years, it could not be considered part of the war zone, AFP added. In a subsequent IRNA report the Iranian deputy petroleum minister affirmed that Iran will be able to "fully control" the Nowruz oil spill "within 3 or 4 weeks."

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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KARMAL ATTENDS PDPA SESSION IN KABUL 3 APRIL

LD050630 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Kabul, April 4, BAKHTAR -- An annual session of reporting on the work done by the party primary organization of the apparat of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan was held here yesterday.

The session was attended by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council RC of the DRA, some members of Politburo and Central Committee of the party, heads of the departments of the apparat of the Central Committee of the PDPA.

The session heard the basic report dealt with the work done and shortages existed in the work of the party committee in connection with the implementation of the decisions of the nationwide conference of the PDPA and the ninth and tenth plenums of the Central Committee of the PDPA. [sentence as received]

Later, the heads of the commissions and departments briefed the session on their accomplishments and presented to the session their views and proposals.

Speaking at the session, Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of RC of the DRA, said: The sessions of reporting on the work done by all party organizations throughout Afghanistan are being considered as a major step for strengthening democracy within the party and for stepping up discipline in the party organizations.

Such sessions, Babrak Karmal noted, play a significant role in promoting the level of knowledge and political awareness of all party members. A significant element in the sessions of reporting on the work done was the active participation of workers and peasants in the sessions. He stressed that along with the growth of democracy, the principle of democratic centralisation must not be forgotten under the prevailing conditions that we are confronted with [in] the undeclared war of reaction and imperialism.

Another important point, he noted, is the development of a system of self-criticism which is being put in practice at these sessions and [which] gave to the participants of the sessions the opportunity of finding their faults and mistakes and the [word indistinct] rectifying them.

The session obligated a party committee of the primary organisation of the apparat of the PDPA CC to make the plan of carrying into effect the directives made by Comrade Babrak Karmal at the session.

AFP: 100 TO 300 SOVIETS BURIED IN AVALANCHES

OW041818 Hong Kong AFP in English 1748 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Islamabad, April 4 (AFP) -- Between 100 and 300 Soviet soldiers died when four military posts were buried by avalanches in the Salang area, northern Afghanistan, late last month, resistance sources said here today.

The posts were in the Doshakha region, just 50 meters (yards) from the southern end of the strategic Salang tunnel, where several hundred Soviet troops were killed in a convoy accident last year, they said. The avalanche also damaged a bridge on the main Kabul-Heratan highway, the sources said. Western diplomats also reported the closure of the road that was first reported last month by Kabul radio, which cited avalanches as the cause without giving casualty figures.

DEFENSE MINISTRY EMPLOYEES REPORTEDLY ARRESTED

BK031058 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] A number of employees reportedly have been arrested in the office of Defense Minister General Abdol Qader of the Karmal regime following discovery of literature supporting the mujahidin. According to agencies, the secret police, in a raid last month, recovered the copies of (HIJRAT) monthly and the daily (WAHDAT-I-ISLAM).

Another report says mujahidin recently killed a number of Karmal soldiers by launching an offensive at (Chah Gunbad).

TRIBAL GUERRILLAS STORM JALALABAD AIRPORT

OW311811 Paris AFP in English 1559 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Text] Islamabad, March 31 (AFP) -- A force of some 200 tribal guerrillas stormed into eastern Afghanistan's Jalalabad Airport Monday and rocketted the main terminal building killing 20 Afghan-Soviet troops and damaging installations and several helicopters, a resistance-runnews agency reported today.

The AFGHAN ISLAMIC PRESS (AIP) said the guerrillas surprised airport guards at night and with rockets and mortars also destroyed an oil depot, the airport's communications unit and two anti-aircraft guns. The agency reported that at least six helicopters were damaged. It was the third big rebel attack since the beginning of the year.

In a subsequent exchange of fire, 20 Soviet or Afghan soldiers were killed, while two rebels were wounded, the agency said. The agency, quoting rebel sources, said that the killed included two senior Soviet Army officers but could not identify their rank. During the attack Soviet units heavily pounded two nearby villages causing severe damage to at least ten houses. There were no civilian casualties however, the agency said.

The guerrillas later clashed with government troops on the Jalalabad-Torkham highway leaving three tanks unserviceable, it said.

FIGHTING IN PARVAN; RADIO OFFICIALS DEFECT

BK041725 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan speak of fighting between freedom fighters and the Soviet and Karmal forces in Parvan Province. In a battle on Thursday, the report says, mujahidin damaged two tanks and three armored vehicles, killing their crew.

Meanwhile, the director of arts and literature of Kabul radio and television, Mrs (Farida Usman Anwari), and three other employees of the same organization have crossed over to Pakistan.

4 APRIL PUNJAB VIOLENCE RESULTS IN 20 DEATHS

BK050850 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh this afternoon, the situation in Punjab continues to be fully under control. No untoward incident has been reported from anywhere since last evening. However, police patrolling in sensitive areas is continuing as a precautionary measure. The death toll in yesterday's violent incidents has risen to 20, with one more person succumbing to his injuries sustained in police firing following the road blockade agitation called by the Akali Dal.

The government is to make a statement in the Lok Sabha at 1630 this afternoon on the situation in Punjab. This was announced by the speaker after agitative opposition members referred to yesterday's incidents. Some of them said they had given notices of adjournment motions.

REPORTAGE ON CHINESE DELEGATION'S VISIT

Meeting With Parliamentarians

BK020949 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] The need for closer India-China ties was stressed at a meeting between the visiting high-level Chinese delegation and members of Parliament in New Delhi. The 11-member Chinese delegation is on a visit to the country at the invitation of the India-China Society.

The secretary general of the society, Mr. S.S. Mahapatra, member of Parliament, said if the two countries come closer, it will have a stabilizing impact on a conflict-ridden world.

The vice president of the National People's Congress of China, Mr Chu Tunan, who is leading the delegation, recalled age-old relations between the two countries.

Session With Gandhi

BK021625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] The prime minister has said there is tremendous scope for cooperation between India and China in various fields and any step taken in this direction will be most welcome. She was speaking to the visiting Chinese delegation when it called on her in New Delhi today. The 11-member delegation is led by Mr Chu Tunan.

Welcoming the delegation, Mrs Gandhi recalled that several such delegations have been exchanged between the two countries in the recent past. Each such visit adds another brick to the building of, what she called, the house of friendship. She hoped that the difficulties between the two countries would be resolved and closer links forged so that both can cooperate in improving the lot of their people.

Mr Chu Tunan conveyed the Chinese prime minister's warm greetings and regards to Mrs Gandhi. He referred to the cultural contacts between India and China, which are more than 2,000 years old. He hoped that their relations would develop further. He expressed happiness at Mrs Gandhi's keen desire to develop Sino-Indian ties and said the task before the people of the two countries are similar. They can play an important role in promoting peace in Asia and the world.

The president of the India-China Society, Mr B.N. Pandey, and the secretary general, Mr Shyam Sunder Mahapatra, were also present on the occasion.

The Chinese delegation comprising parliamentarians, academicians, and senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade and women's organizations will visit Rajasthan, Gujarat, Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta.

PRC INVITES OPPOSITION DEPUTY TO VISIT IN JULY

BK041619 Hong Kong AFP in English 1559 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] New Delhi, April 4 (AFP) -- China has invited a top opposition deputy in the Indian parliament to tour Tibet and visit Beijing in July, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported today.

Subramaniam Swamy, a member of the "Janata" (People's Party) which ruled India from 1977 to 1979, was invited to visit what was called the forbidden city of Lhasa, Tibetan capital, and to continue to Beijing for discussions with Chinese leaders. He would be accompanied by his wife. The dates of the proposed tour were not available.

NARASIMHA RAO DEPARTS FOR GROUP OF 77 MEETING

BK030955 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, left New Delhi this morning for Argentina to attend the conference of the Group of 77. He is leading a high-powered Indian delegation to the conference which opens in Buenos Aires on Tuesday.

As chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, India has certain important views to express at the conference on the current international economic situation.

The 11-member Indian delegation includes the commerce minister, Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, who has already left for Argentina.

NEPAL

FRENCH PRESIDENT SET TO VISIT IN EARLY MAY

BK031521 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] At the invitation of their majesties the king and queen, President of the Republic of France Francois Mitterrand and Mrs Mitterrand will pay a state visit to Nepal in the first week of May 1983. This was announced by the Foreign Ministry in Katmandu today.

SRI LANKA

PARLIAMENTARY BY-ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN MAY

BK011617 Hong Kong AFP in English 0943 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Colombo, April 1 (AFP) -- Sri Lanka will hold by-elections for 18 parliamentary seats in May, following a proclamation issued yesterday by President Junius Jayewardene calling for nominations to the 18 electorates on April 22.

Under the election law, the poll must be held between three and five weeks from the date of nomination. The parliamentary vacancies occurred when President Jayewardene asked 17 members of his party, including a Cabinet minister, to resign from their seats. These members had failed to obtain over 50 percent of the vote in their respective districts at the presidential elections and the national referendum held last year. The other seat fell vacant through an earlier resignation.

The government recently amended the 1978 Constitution to permit by-elections. The amendment allows by-elections if the party does not nominate a successor by a specified date. Earlier, a vacancy was filled by the party holding the seat nominating a successor.

The ruling United National Party's (UNP) parliamentary strength will not be affected even if it loses all 18 seats. The UNP, which had 143 seats in the 168 member house, will still have a clear two-thirds majority even if opposition parties win all. This permits the government to amend the Constitution when necessary and declare and continue a state of emergency with parliamentary approval for as long as it likes.

At last December's referendum, the government received national approval to extend the life of the current parliament by six years, thus postponing national elections until 1989.

With the major opposition party, the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) led by former Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike having only a handful of seats in parliament and the traditional leftist parties having only one, President Jayewardene is hoping that the parliamentary opposition will be more representative and strengthened after the May elections.

However, the opposition parties have not yet been able to agree on a sharing out of the 18 seats with Mrs. Bandaranaike's SLFP and the Marxist parties squabbling over the division.

TAMIL 'MILITANTS' BOMB JAFFNA HEADQUARTERS

BK020927 Hong Kong AFP in English 0919 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Colombo, April 2 (AFP) -- Minority Tamil militants today bombed Jaffna's district administration headquarters a few hours before the start of a top-level conference on the deteriorating security situation in the north, informed sources said.

In an early-morning attack, Tamil militants calling themselves the "liberation tigers" flung home-made bombs at the headquarters, shattering one room and the main conference hall.

The conference began on schedule despite the attack, the sources in Jaffna, nearly 400 kilometeres (250 miles) north of here, said. It was called by Jaffna's district administrator and attended by parliamentarians, the mayor and high level Army and police personnel.

The militants also tried to set fire to 35 vehicles parked in the premises, the sources said. However, only five of the vehicles went up in flames.

The minority Tamils are seeking to set up an independent Tamil state because of alleged discrimination by the majority Sinhals community. Militants are held responsible for the death of over 30 police and Army officers and attacks on police stations and banks.

Meanwhile, Army and police launched a massive search last night for a suspected Tamil terrorist who escaped military custody yesterday evening. Thambipillai Maheswaran, detained in connection with a bank robbery in 1981, is said to have been held under maximum security. Army officers found the wire mesh in suspect's room cut with pliers. Security forces set up road blocks and began a house to house search, local press reports said. They are also trying to ascertain if Mr. Maheswaran received any inside help in his escape, the newspaper THE ISLAND reported. The paper said several Army personnel have been questioned.

BRIEFS

INDIAN RICE -- India has gifted to Sri Lanka 10,000 metric tons of rice valued at approximately 46 million rupees as a token of friendship between the two countries. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi made this offer to President Jayewardene some time back in the context of the drought situation in Sri Lanka. At a function held at the Colombo port on 31 March, the Indian high commissioner formally handed over the rice to the minister of food and cooperatives. [Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 1 Apr 83 BK]

ENVOY SAYS IRAQI CEASE-FIRE PROPOSAL REJECTED

JN041733 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] In a dispatch just received from Bahrain, the Iranian ambassador in Bahrain was cited as saying that Iran rejects the Iraqi cease-fire proposal to combat the pollution in the Gulf area.

DEPUTY MINISTER: IRAN CAN CONTROL OIL SLICK

LD042048 Tehran IRNA in English 1905 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April 4 IRNA -- The Islamic Republic is able to fully control oil spill of Nowruz oil field within three or four weeks.

Deputy Minister of Oil for Petroleum Affairs [as received] Seyyed Hasan Kheradmand speaking to IRNA today also said with the cooperation of committed governments of the Persian Gulf countries Iran's efforts would gain more speedy results.

Kheradmand added that any decision in (?complete) control of oil spill and other necessary measures have been included in the agenda of the ministerial session to be held in Kuwait Monday. [sentence as received]

LEADERS COMMENT ON OIL SPILL, DOMESTIC ISSUES

Prime Minister Musavi

LD031255 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Interview with Prime Minister Musavi by unidentified correspondent after 3 April Cabinet session in Tehran -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Mr Musavi, could you tell us what issues were studied in today's Cabinet session? Could you explain the bills or plans approved in this session?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In this session, we had more news about the pollution of the Persian Gulf waters. The oil which was spilled is moving on the water toward the Persian Gulf countries, the United Arab Emirates and other Arab states. The wind also is blowing in that direction. This news reveals the antihuman policies of the Iraqi regime. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has expressed its readiness to confront this problem of preventing the oil leakage. However, as the world public opinion knows in this connection, once again the aggressive methods and the savage nature of the Iraqi regime prevent this on a world scale.

We hereby declare to our compatriots that this issue of oil wells and spills is no loss to us in comparison with the numerous other oil wells we have. Economic issues don't matter here; there is the issue of the particular rancor of the Iraqi regime against the region's countries and against the values accepted by various countries.

The other issue raised in the Cabinet session today was a detailed discussion of the social security organization. After this discussion, it was agreed that the social security organization will be merged with the Ministry of Welfare so that we will have a ministry in future that will endeavor to prepare to implement the 20th principle of the Constitution regarding national insurance and the other issues raised in that very interesting principle of the Constitution because the issue is of great importance. Here it should be noted that, according to available statistics, about 8 million people are now covered by the social security organization. From this we can recognize the importance of the issue.

We also had a detailed analysis of oil issues throughout the world and the price issue in the long and short terms. Other brothers also expressed their views. It was a useful and constructive discussion.

In this session, our relations with friendly and fraternal countries were discussed and various ways to expand these relations were discussed and debated.

[Question] Regarding the session held in the presence of some of the representatives of the Persian Gulf countries on environmental improvement, what methods of preventing further oil spills in this region, with the cooperation of the region's countries, will be implemented?

[Answer] When the oil spill started and the Iraqi missiles afterward attacked our oil field, the Islamic Republic many times tried to make contracts and to control this matter with the use of its own technology or the technology it can purchase. However, Iraq has prevented us and, as a result, a tragedy is developing for Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Qatar, and so on.

In connection with the Kuwait convention, we raised the issue that the representatives of these seven or eight Persian Gulf countries must be present in the war zone. We just cannot trust the promise given by the Iraqi regime for what we are witnessing now. Under those circumstances, our country will be able to and has the power to prevent the oil spill. Otherwise, this issue will continue.

Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD031317 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Foreign guests participating in the second round of the Koran recitation contest and a number of Rafsanjan City residents met before noon today with Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Addressing the audience, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: We have great hopes for a move to realize plans inside the country in the new year. That is because following an end to disorder and shortcomings which were the result of a transitional period, officials of the country now are familiar with the limit of their responsibilities and jurisdiction. Therefore, we can predict that the new year will be an active year.

From an international point of view, the Islamic Republic has succeeded in cutting the greedy hands of its enemies and they have come to realize that they have no choice but to come to an understanding with the Islamic Republic of Iran. Of course, this should not mislead us into thinking that our enemies have given up conspiring against us. The least they will continue to do is to keep us preoccupied and as long as the revolution continues to remain on its course we must expect obstruction from our enemies. Our enemies will keep quiet only at the time when we stop to speak of realities and justice.

Continuing his remarks, Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the Iraqi attack on the Nowruz oil field and to the destruction of the Iranian oil jetties, which have resulted in polluting the Persian Gulf waters. He said: The circumstances have been created as a means for anti-Iranian propaganda, a means to which our enemies have resorted in order to blame us. The area which was hit is exactly within firing range and basically is not a difficult target.

Yet see for yourselves what the world arrogance's approach toward this criminal action has been, the damages of which are directed against humanity. Their reaction consisted of spiteful propaganda against us. In their propaganda, they claim that we have not taken any action to stop the leakage of oil. This is contrary to the fact that we took action right from the beginning. We provided the vessel and experts and the Iraqi reaction was to hit them as well. Of course, we expected such approaches by the world media.

Continuing his remarks, the Majlis speaker said: You should be pleased that the Islamic Republic regime is lasting. As long as we maintain an offensive position against the nest of colonialism, we also must prepare and be prepared for a prolonged struggle and fight. We cannot afford to enjoy might and not to fight oppression. At the moment, too, we are at the service of the oppressed with all our means and power.

SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ARRIVES 5 APR

LD051128 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] The chief of the Middle Eastern Countries Department at the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Safronchik, arrived in Tehran this morning for talks with Foreign Ministry officials in our country on bilateral and international issues. He was welcomed by the Foreign Ministry's political director-general.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 1,268

LD031805 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,268 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. While marking the anniversary of the birth of Fatemeh, the immaculate, developments on the battlefronts of right against wrong are brought to your attention. In the western operational sectors of the country, confrontations with the enemy forces continued yesterday with exchanges of fire. Our combative units defended their positions and kept enemy ground activities under check. On other fronts of this region, our engineering units discovered and defused a number of antipersonnel and antitank mines. Exchanges of fire in the Sumar and Mehran areas were intense yesterday. In the Marivan region, our forces opened fire on enemy personnel and entrenchments in (Baneh Banik), inflicting damage and casualties on the Saddamist forces.

In the southern operational region, our forces carried out their assignments, establishing and consolidating their positions and opening fire on supply and communication routes used by the enemy and on enemy gathering points. Enemy trench digging was disrupted because of the intensity of fire executed by the forces of Islam. In the Abadan and Khorramshahr regions, our artillery units opened fire on enemy artillery positions situated on the western side of the Arvand Rud, silencing the enemy's fire. Enemy military traffic along the Al-Faw-Basrah route was halted. As a result of the enemy long-range fire, three houses in Abadan yesterday were destroyed. Also during the past 24 hours, violations of our airspace and reconnaissance missions by enemy aircraft were foiled by the tactical moves of our fighter aircraft and the fire of our antiaircraft units.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,269

LD041804 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,269 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. During the past 24 hours, the powerful and victorious fighters of Islam, defending the positions under their protection in the country's western fronts, opened heavy artillery fire on enemy positions and units. They also continued collecting mines from various minefields, discovering and neutralizing about 7,000 mines planted by the Iraqis.

At 0600 yesterday, an Iraqi unit in the Meymak region carried out an offensive, but with heavy artillery fire on enemy forces our powerful and ever-vigilant forces pinned down the Saddam mercenaries. After suffering about 40 dead, the enemy was forced to withdraw into its own defensive positions. In these operations, the forces of Islam destroyed nine slit trenches and foxholes of the Saddam forces.

In the Mehran and Changuleh regions, enemy artillery positions and one motor pool of the Iraqi forces came under our forces' artillery fire. Two artillery positions of the Saddam forces were destroyed and a number of the vehicles of the mercenary forces of Saddam were destroyed or badly damaged. On these fronts, our patrol units succeeded in penetrating the defensive and supply lines of the Iraqi forces, killing more than 30 of the Saddam mercenaries and destroying four observation posts, six slit trenches, one mortar, and one machinegun position. On the Marivan front, the artillery fire of the Ground Forces on enemy positions in the Biara region and (Enab) Garrison destroyed a number of observation posts and bunkers together with their crew and inflicted considerable damage on the (Enab) Garrison.

On the southern fronts, the fighters of Islam continued defending their positions, stopping all the mercenaries of Saddam's activities and inflicting losses and casualties on them with their defensive fire.

On the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the fighters of Islam, composed of the heroic personnel of the Navy and the Gendarmerie, opened fire on Iraqi positions and supply routes. While preventing any movement by the blasphemous forces of Saddam on the Al-Faw-Basra axis and silencing their fire, they destroyed seven slit trenches and foxholes and four observation posts of the enemy forces. They also set fire to one enemy vehicle, killing or wounding a number of its crew.

The artillery fire of the Saddam mercenaries yesterday destroyed two houses in Abadan. During the past 24 hours, the heroic personnel of the Air Force and the antiaircraft units neutralized all aerial aggression by the planes of the Iraqi Armed Forces against the western and southern sectors with tactical operations and timely fire.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

REPUBLIC ANNIVERSARY RESOLUTION READ AT RALLY

LD011424 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Resolution read by unidentified participant at Islamic Republic anniversary rally at Tehran University on 1 April]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful: On 11 February, the Muslim Iranian nation repudiated the tyrannical, monarchical regime and founded an Islamic order.

On 1 April, it established the Islamic Republic and by holding fast to the rope of God, it started its progress toward holy, divine aspirations. Now we are at the end of the 4th and on the eve of the 5th year of the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During these 4 years with the grace of God and as a result of the prophetic leadership of the imam of the nation and due to the unity, solidarity, self-sacrifice, and heroism of the hezbollahi nation; as a result of the precious blood of our noble martyrs, the Islamic Revolution has confronted with strength and power all the various conspiracies of world blasphemy and its domestic and foreign agents. By depending upon God's eternal might and His divine assistance, this nation has moved steadfastly and with strength and glory toward the achievement of its sublime goals. The experiences of many centuries have been condensed into the 4 years of the Islamic Revolution.

The foundations of the Islamic Republic have now been consolidated and this revolutionary society is moving toward greater Islamization and further implementation of divine teachings and the holy shari'a in every aspect of social life and individual behavior. We hope in the near future the light of the divine sun of Islam will eliminate the darkness of ignorance and tyranny in the world and that we will witness the dawn of the victory of the oppressed over the arrogant. On the eve of the fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we the Muslim and revolutionary Iranian nation announce:

1. On this blissful anniversary of the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we, the Islamic nation, renew our covenant with the illustrious leader and the uncompromising imam of the Islamic nation. Once again, we confirm our profound commitment to implement the orders of the clerical rule and to benefit from the instructions of the committed and revolutionary clergy.

2. On the eve of the fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we the Muslim nation reaffirm the aspirations of our martyrs, namely, the complete implementation of divine teachings in the society. We announce that we demand that the teachings and ordinances of the holy religion should be carefully implemented in all aspects of national life.

3. As the brilliant guidance and the prophetic leadership of the imam of the nation has lit the path of truth and has led the way ever since the revolutionary uprising of the Muslim nation and as the continuation of the revolution necessitates obedience to the messages and the implementation of the orders of this illustrious source of emulation and far-sighted leader of the Islamic world, therefore, we, the Muslim nation will regard precise observation of the guidance of the imam by the people and national officials as the only means to achieve the goals of the Islamic Revolution.

4. Confident of the fact that our involvement in the war is one of the great divine trials that will lead to the advancement of the Islamic nation toward maturity and perfection, and while confirming that the issue of the war is the most important issue, we announce that until the complete attainment of the Islamic Republic of Iran's legitimate conditions and the downfall of the regime governing Baghdad, we will continue the slogan, "War, war until victory."

5. Now that all the revolutionary organizations of the Islamic Republic of Iran have been consolidated, while emphasizing the need for accurate observation of Islamic principles and moving in accordance with the clerical rule line, we express our unstinted support for the legislative, judicial, and executive powers and for the military and security organizations, Islamic Revolution organizations, and other organizations that are at the service of Islam and the Muslims.

6. We request the esteemed Majlis and the executive officials to pay special attention to the condition of the slumdwellers and the elimination of the attitude of palace dwelling, in keeping with the life-giving remarks of the imam of the nation at the beginning of the new year. We request them to take more effective steps by passing bills in keeping with Islamic jurisprudence to establish an Islamic economy and safeguard the rights of the deprived and oppressed masses of society who are bearing the major burden of the revolution and the war.

7. By emphasizing the slogan of neither East nor West, we, the Muslim nation, while expressing our hatred and revulsion toward the antihuman crimes of world arrogance and while condemning the savage behavior of the superpowers of the East and the West and of international Zionism, announce that to achieve the holy goals and aspirations of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we will fight with all our might against their various conspiracies.

8. While expressing our support for all the liberation movements of the world and for the Muslim and revolutionary Palestinian people and while supporting their armed struggle for the elimination of the regime occupying Quds from the face of the world, we warn the compromising leaders of Palestinian movements that any relinquishment of Palestinian aspirations and acceptance of the disgraceful imperialist plans will only result in misery and degradation.

Hoping for the victory of Islam throughout the world. May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' KILLED, CAPTURED

LD022008 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] According to reports received from the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada base, the combatants of Islam yesterday captured Valilu and the Parestan Heights and destroyed the positions of the counterrevolutionaries in the villages of (Mamazineh), (Vargol), and Ja'faran. This was part of a cleaning-up operation of the Sar Dasht-Mahabad axis, which is one of the important bases of the armed assailants subservient to international oppression. In this successful operation, 23 members of counterrevolutionary groups were killed and at least 19 others were wounded. A Land Rover was captured by the combatants of Islam.

The selfless combatants of Islam, in operations carried out on the (?Seru) axis, succeeded in cleaning up the villages of (Qasdid), (Sudmanabad), and Mangol and killing two counterrevolutionaries. They captured five others.